

NOTICE OF APPROVAL REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN

DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC

Sierra Terrace, along West Berryhill Drive Grass Valley, California September 3, 2008

What action did DTSC take?

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has approved the Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the Sierra Terrace site in Grass Valley, California. The RAW is a cleanup plan to excavate soil contaminated with arsenic and lead and ship it to an off-site permitted disposal site. Further to prevent potential risk to future residents, DTSC is requiring foundation liners composed of high density polyethylene and horizontal soil venting systems be installed below where new homes will be built to prevent solvent vapors from potentially moving into the homes.

During the environmental investigation, soil contaminated with arsenic and lead was detected in samples at levels that may pose a health risk given the proposed residential development for the site. Also, the detected soil gas concentrations of solvents originating from an off-site property indicate a potential risk to future residents.

There is no immediate health risk because the soil gas contamination, lead and arsenic are in the ground, and there is a low likelihood of exposure to people who may walk across the site. Nevertheless, the RAW addressed removal of the arsenic and lead contaminated soil to protect future residents. Also, DTSC is requiring foundation liners and horizontal soil venting systems be installed below where new homes will be built to protect future residents. As a result of these requirements, the new homes will have a deed restriction.

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a Notice of Exemption. This site meets the exemption criteria because the excavation of soil and construction of foundation liners and passive venting systems are minor actions that will prevent the exposure of future residents to arsenic, lead and solvents.

Where do I get more information?

You may review the RAW, and other project documents at the Grass Valley Public Library, Royce Branch, 207 Mill Street, in Grass Valley. You may also review the documents at the:

DTSC web site, (www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/);

DTSC File Room 8800 Cal Center Drive Sacramento CA 95826 Please contact Bobbi Jensen at (916) 255-3758 to make the necessary arrangements.

Where do I get my questions answered?

Please contact:
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For media inquiries, please contact Claudia Loomis, Public Information Officer, at (916) 255-6578 or e-mail at CLoomis@dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

You can obtain additional information about the site by using the California State Relay Service at 1 (888) 877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Nathan Schumacher at (916) 255-3650 regarding the Sierra Terrace project.